

production of cosmetics. For example, ammonia and live steam are safe catalysts because they completely vaporize out of the mixture during processing. Ammonia is the preferred catalyst of the invention. The catalyst to crystal-methicone mixture weight/weight percentage is about 0.001 – 10.0%, preferably about 0.05 – 4.0%, and most preferably about 1 – 2%.

b. Mixing

[0013] The methicone is cured to the crystals with mixing and the action of a catalyst. The crystals are first mixed with methicone and catalyst. This mixing is preferably performed rapidly. During the mixing covalent bonds are formed between the methicone molecules and the oxide linkages of the crystals. The mixing can be accomplished with a hammermill with a large screen, such as a ¼" screen, or other rapid mixers known to those in the art, such that there is a complete uniformity of coating with the methicone and catalyst on the crystals. The components are mixed until a slurry is formed.

c. Drying

[0014] The mixing and formation of a slurry is followed by baking the slurry until the mixture is dry in order to remove the catalyst from the mixture. The baking takes place at a temperature within the range of about 150°F - 450°F, preferably between about 225°F and about 375°F, most preferably at about 300°F.

[0015] Baking is performed until the mixture is dry and the catalyst is removed. Baking occurs for approximately 1 hour when baking at 300°F. The mixture is dry when the water content of the mixture is less than or equal to about 2%, preferably less than about 1%, most preferably less than about 0.1%. The dried mixture of coated crystals is lipophilic and hydrophobic which allows the coated crystals to remain suspended in an emulsion.

d. Testing

[0016] The coated crystals can be tested to determine whether true covalent bonds were formed between the methicone and the crystals. First, the coated crystals are placed into a standardized aqueous lotion and allowed to sit for about 12-18 hours. If the methicone is not completely bonded to the crystals, then bubbles of H₂ will appear.

e. Emulsion

[0017] The final step, after making the coated crystals, is mixing the coated crystals with the carrier to create the crystalline emulsion. The carrier is any gel, lotion, thick solution, cream, paste, wax, or like substance, or any combination thereof known by those in the art that would allow the carrier to hold the coated crystals. The coated crystal to carrier ratio is within the range of about 2%-99%, preferably about 50% (1:2). However, the range may vary with the carrier used, as long as an emulsion can be maintained and sufficient amounts of crystals are present to act as abrasers.

[0018] Additional compounds may be added to the crystalline emulsion, including; vitamin C, vitamin E, herbal extracts, perfumes, thickeners, surfactants, moisturizers and any other similar compound or combination thereof known to those in the art and desired to be used in a cosmetic.

B. Application of the Crystalline Emulsion to the Skin

[0019] A generous amount of the crystalline emulsion should be applied to the skin, for example on the face of a user, avoiding the eye area. The user then gently rubs the emulsion with his/her fingertips, applying light to medium pressure, in a circular motion between about 10 to about 15 times. The rubbing should not exceed about 30 circles in order to prevent excess

abrasion of the skin. Then the face is rinsed thoroughly with warm water and patted dry. This procedure can be performed several times a week, preferably about once every 3 to 5 days.

[0020] In order to obtain the maximum benefits of the skin rejuvenation treatment, a further embodiment of this invention involves the use of the crystalline emulsion in a system of products that provide complete treatment and skin care. This system involves six phases, the application of the crystalline emulsion being one of these phases.

[0021] Phase one involves the use of a face and body cleanser daily. The user should wet his/her face with warm water, work a small amount of the cleanser into a lather, and smooth over the face and body. The cleanser is then rinsed off and the face is patted dry.

[0022] Phase two is the application of the crystalline emulsion which should preferably be done about once every 3 to 5 days.

[0023] Phase three involves the daily use of a toner that acts as an exfoliant to remove excess dead skin cells, oil residue and/or dirt and to calm skin redness, minimize pores and condition the skin. The toner is applied to a cotton pad which is gently used to wipe the face.

The user should wait about 5 minutes before proceeding to the next phase.

[0024] Phase four involves the daily use of a vitamin C collagen gel to protect and nurture new skin cells. A small amount should be applied to the face in a circular motion.

[0025] Phase five involves the use of a vitamin enriched sun protecting day moisturizing cream to protect the new skin cells from sun damage, pollution and dehydration. A small amount should be applied to the face twice daily.